AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION AND ABSTRACT

In the specification, page 1, after the title, please insert the following heading:

Background of the Invention

In the specification, page 1, line 4, please amend the sub-heading as follows:

1. ~~Technical~~ Field of the Invention

In the specification, page 1, line 7, please amend the sub-heading as follows:

2. ~~Background~~ Description of the Related Art

In the specification, page 2, lines 4-8, please amend the paragraph as follows:

However, if a plurality of moving picture process-dedicated LSI's ~~are~~ is installed in the image processing device, the number of parts increases with accompanying increase in the cost of the image processing device, and the system will become complicated, since it is necessary to switch the plurality of moving picture process-dedicated LSI's to be operated for every coding system.

In the specification, page 2, lines 9-14, please amend the paragraph as follows:

Therefore, it is possible to consider a device in which one moving picture process-dedicated LSI is made to treat the plurality of coding systems. Such a device may be realized by installing all necessary pieces of dedicated hardware such as VLD for every coding system. However, the device thus realized will result in increase of the area of the moving picture process-dedicated LSI, and hence in increase of the cost thereof.

In the specification, page 2, lines 15-19, please amend the paragraph as follows:

Moreover, in order that one moving picture process-dedicated LSI is made to treat the plurality of coding systems, each dedicated hardware may be elaborately made to support each of the plurality of coding systems. As one of such resolutions, ~~a~~ document 1 (Published Japanese patent application No. 2000-141807) discloses the art of the variable-length-code decoding circuit supporting two coding systems.

In the specification, page 3, lines 4-11, please amend the paragraph as follows:

However, according to ~~the~~ document 1, only two coding systems of DV and MPEG-1 or MPEG-2 can be supported. In order to support other coding systems, it is necessary to develop a circuit from the beginning according to a coding system to be supported, therefore, development man-hour increases. Furthermore, it is necessary to provide two kinds of tables etc. required for a variable length code decoding, one for DV and the other for MPEG-1 or MPEG-2. Therefore, compared with the case where it supports only one coding system, the circuit scale becomes larger and the cost of the moving picture process-dedicated LSI increases.

In the specification, page 3, line 15, please amend the sub-heading as follows:

Brief Summary ~~Disclosure~~ of the Invention

In the specification, page 4, lines 11 and 12, please amend the paragraph as follows:

According to the above structure, the plurality of coding systems ~~are~~ is supported by the plurality of dedicated decoders, without an overhead needed in reconstruction.

In the specification, page 6, line 23, please amend the sub-heading as follows:

~~Best Mode for Carrying out~~ Detailed Description of the Invention

In the specification, page 15, lines 6-8, please amend the paragraph as follows:

As already explained with reference to Fig. 3 and Fig. 4, when the decoding advances, the stream pointer strm_ptr returns toward the direction of 0 bit, and finally becomes less than the bit width of the stream data strm_data.

In the specification, page 17, line 12, please amend the sub-heading as follows:

~~Industrial Applicability~~